

APPLICANT: Avner SHAFRIR, et al.
SERIAL NO.: 09/583,736
DOCKET NO.: 23452-111
CUSTOMER NO.: 29315

Remarks

Claims 1-33 are all the claims pending in this application. Selected claims are amended to clarify and more particularly indicate the claimed subject matter. The amendments are made for the purpose of expediting prosecution and are not made to overcome claim rejections. Reconsideration and allowance of all of the rejected claims are respectfully requested in view of the foregoing remarks.

Claim Rejection under 35 U.S.C. § 103

Claim 1-33 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as allegedly being obvious over Mirabilis LTD, Quick Tour ("Quick Tour") in view of ICQ Inc., ICQ Email Signature ("ICQ Email Signature"). Applicants respectfully traverse this rejection on the following basis.

Independent claims 1, 8, 15, 22, 30, 31, 32 and 33 essentially recite the features of generating two or more types of electronic documents using two or more types of applications, presenting one or more user indicators within the two or more types of electronic documents and providing a communications link to the one or more target network users associated with the one or more user indicators presented in the two or more types of applications, among other things. In an exemplary embodiment, network users may determine the status of other network users *wherever* a user indicator is presented within electronic documents created using two or more different system applications, wherein the electronic documents include e-mail, an HTML document or any other electronic document (see the specification at page 6, lines 21-26).

Quick Tour discloses how to download and install the ICQ application, how to register a new ICQ user, and how to configure the ICQ application. Quick Tour further discloses an availability status option that is configured as a drop down window, wherein the drop down

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window is generated by the ICQ application (see pages 4 and 5 of Quick Tour). There is no teaching or suggestion in Quick Tour for enabling an application other than the ICQ application to generate the drop down status window. As a result, Quick Tour is deficient at least because it fails to teach or suggest generating two or more types of electronic documents using two or more types of applications and presenting one or more user indicators within the two or more types of electronic documents.

Regarding claim 1, the Examiner alleges that Quick Tour discloses communication means “that allows your to contact other ICQ users on the Internet by clicking the name (identifier) or the icon next to it and then send a message” (see page 3 of the December 22, 2003 Office Action). Applicants submit that claim 1 recites communication means for activating at least one communication mode associated with the user indicators *presented in the two or more types of applications*. Quick Tour is therefore further deficient because it fails to teach or suggest activating at least one communication mode associated with the user indicators *presented in the two or more types of applications*.

The Examiner acknowledges that “ICQ, as described and illustrated in Quick Tour, fails to teach presenting one or more user indicators within the at least one electronic document, wherein the at least one electronic document is generated using any of a plurality of applications,” (see page 4 of the December 23, 2003 Office Action). The Examiner relies on ICQ Email Signature to provide this deficiency. Applicants submit that ICQ Email Signature is directed to enabling users to include a signature blocks in an e-mail message, so that both users that have ICQ installed on their computer and users that do not have ICQ installed on their computer may send email messages directly to the target user’s computer (see the first paragraph

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on page 1 of the ICQ Email Signature). Applicants submit that while the email link in the signature block may provide an easy way to communicate with the creator of the signature block, ICQ Email Signature does not overcome the deficiencies of Quick Tour. In particular, Quick Tour and ICQ Email Signature, alone and in combination, do not teach or suggest presenting one or more user indicators within the two or more types of electronic documents, wherein the electronic document types are capable of being generated using *two or more types of applications*. At best, ICQ Email Signature provides a link to initiate an email communication but does not provide the status of network users.

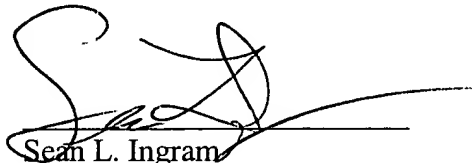
In view of the comments above, Applicants respectfully submit that the cited references, alone and in combination, do not satisfy the requirements of 35 U.S.C. §103(a). Thus, claims independent claims 1, 8, 15, 22, 30, 31, 32, and 33 are believed to be allowable over these references. Furthermore, claims 2-7, 9-14, 16-21, and 23-29 are believed to be allowable at least by virtue of their dependency.

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Applicants respectfully submit that this application is in condition for allowance and such disposition is earnestly solicited.

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Respectfully submitted,



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